## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

**REGION 5** 

AIR AND RADIATION DIVISION 77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.

24793

DATE: October 9, 1996

SUBJECT: Site Inspection, Cuneo Press Site, Chicago, Illinois

FROM: Jeanette Marrero Manue

Environmental Engineer

Radiation and Indoor Air Section

Larry Jensen, CHP
Regional Radiation Expense

Radiation and Indoor Air Section

TO: Verneta Simon, On-Scene Coordinator

**Emergency and Enforcement Response Branch** 

Response Section III

As per your request, Larry Jensen and I visited the Cuneo Press site in Chicago, Illinois to check on elevated gamma readings reported by Roy F. Weston, Inc. to the Chicago Department of Environment. A limited survey was conducted on September 19, 1996, in order for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) to better understand the problem.

After surveying the area, background readings were found to be in the range of 2,500-4,000 counts per minute with a shielded sodium iodide count rate meter held at ground level. The lowest readings were within the range of background. The highest reading encountered on site was 214,000 counts per minute. The area of concern was determined to be outside the concrete pad in the middle of the train rails towards the east extending 3 feet from the eastern rail along the entire length of the Premium Plastics building. See the attached diagram.

The survey readings indicated a combination of limited areas of contamination (less than about 100 square feet) and possible point sources. All appeared to be shallow. Further investigation is recommended.

Attachment

